

foreign resources that will have the capacity to cripple our energy economy. The challenge to produce more oil and natural gas is greater because the production of our existing resource base is subject to a natural decline through depletion.

Fuel cells, electric vehicles, hybrids, biomass, solar technology, and wind energy, all represented on this chart as nonhydropower renewables, are all very promising alternative energy sources for the future. But right now there is no suitable infrastructure in place that will allow for these energies—even when combined, as you will see in later charts—to sufficiently supply current needs, much less future demands.

Let's look at U.S. energy consumption. The green line is the consumption of energy in this country. The red line represents the current production. And of the projections, the purple line represents renewables, including hydro and nonhydropower. In other words, the difference between the green and the red line is what we are having to bring in from out of the U.S. sources in order to meet the needs of the United States of America.

Americans do consume more energy than we produce and will continue to consume more energy, especially fossil fuels, for decades to come. Although several sources exist today, the chart reflects, as I said before, that the contribution of renewables and others is very little, if you look down the road.

This means that our President is right. We need more refineries. We need more electric powerplants, more coal, more natural gas pipelines and production. It is plain to see that we will not be able to conserve our way out of this crisis. While conservation helps—and it has rightly made a difference—it is not going to meet our estimated consumption without drastically changing America's standard of living.

The United States of America is the world's largest energy producer, consumer, and net importer. However, it is no secret that the United States is becoming more and more dependent on foreign oil imports.

This chart reflects what we have to look forward to by way of dependence, out through the year 2020. If we look at our petroleum consumption and look at it here on this chart, and this green line is our petroleum production, what we are faced with is, between 2000 and 2020 we will be relying on oil from foreign countries. It is an enormous amount of oil. We will be depending on them for an enormous amount of oil.

Total imports in the month of April, for example, this year, as a percentage of total domestic petroleum deliveries was 62.4 percent. At this time last year, it was about 59 percent. The total petroleum products delivered to the domestic market in April equaled over 19 million barrels per day, while in the same month last year it delivered about 18.5 million barrels per day.

The scarce petroleum resource is not a problem experienced only by the United States; this energy crisis is experienced across the globe, so much so that as foreign countries realize the increase in their own energy needs, they will be far less willing to accommodate the growing export demands our country is going to place upon them. For example, China used to export oil. Today they are a big importer of oil. The demand for oil is growing worldwide.

But even with increased reliance on foreign oil as a country, we are not going to go far if we do not work earnestly to expand the natural gas and oil pipeline system we have in our country. Our Nation's 200,000-mile oil pipeline system is the world's largest. These almost invisible ribbons of steel deliver more than 13.3 billion barrels of crude oil and petroleum products in a typical year. Without them, it would take thousands of trucks and barges clogging the Nation's roads and waterways to do the same. The capacity of the system, however, is being seriously eroded and the future of oil and natural gas transmission does not appear to be promising.

If we refuse to act, the alternative will be a continued capacity squeeze and higher transmission costs passed on to the consumer. And in some areas they are very expensive.

This chart shows what we can expect under three different energy production scenarios through the year 2020. The top line assumes energy use with respect to economic growth. This means that if we as a nation continued along the same lines as we are currently traveling, to the year 2020, with energy demands rising in proportion to economic growth, and there were no further technological advances made, then consumption would increase dramatically.

The bottom line represents energy production growth without significant changes.

The second line is what the Department of Energy predicts will happen if consumers are offered a menu of available technologies to choose from, an example of which would be a family replacing a vehicle after several years of use, with a more fuel-efficient one.

What happens is, if you use this chart, if we use energy production with available technology and conservation, we will bring down the need. Then if we fold in energy production using available technology, we will bring it down some more. So this shows that by using technology and conservation, we can bring down this demand for energy in this country.

But the fact is, we still have a long way to go, if you look at the difference between this green line and this gray line. This is the amount of energy we are going to have to make up for during the years to come.

The third path, as I already mentioned, reflects the impact of conservation at its height.

The point I am trying to make is that we have an enormous gap between what we are going to need, in terms of energy in the United States of America, and our production. That gap will have to be made up by foreign imports if we do not act quickly to accommodate this increased demand with our own resources. There is no guarantee that these foreign imports will be available.

I believe we are more vulnerable today than ever before. Early this year, I visited with President Mubarak, for an hour, with Senator SPECTER. Then we traveled to Israel and met with at that time Prime Minister Barak, Shimon Peres, and now-Prime Minister Sharon, and several Arab leaders. I came back from that trip very concerned in regard to the growing Muslim extreme fundamentalism in that part of the world. The thought I had was that if this continued to grow and they impacted on our allies in that part of the world, we could be brought to our knees in terms of our ability to get oil from that part of the world.

I think most people would agree the situation today is far more scary than it was then. As you know, our major source of oil there is the Saudis—good friends. I am pleased the President and Secretary of State have worked with some of our friends there and they are stepping up to the plate and being responsive to our needs. But there is no guarantee. Osama bin Laden, who has targeted the leadership in Saudi Arabia, could change that situation.

Then the issue is, Where do we find ourselves? If we think about what happened in California this last year, and the urgency, the crisis, and the impact that it had on the rest of the country, it affected businesses in the State of Ohio. But when that happened, we started burning dirty diesel. Environmental restrictions came off, and we just went to town to take care of the problem we had in California.

Can you just imagine what would happen in this country if our oil supply was cut off? It would be Katy bar the door. We would get oil from wherever we could, and environmental concerns would go straight out the window because we would need to keep our country going.

What I am saying is that it is time we adopt an energy policy in this country. It is something that cannot be delayed. This is not a Republican or a Democratic issue. We have a real problem that needs to be solved. Our national security is in jeopardy, and we need to go forward and deal with this problem before we leave the Senate this year.

As far as I am concerned, it is just as important as the proposed legislation we have to stimulate the economy. If we don't have an energy policy as part of that economic stimulus and if we cannot guarantee that the future looks bright in terms of our energy costs, we are in deep trouble.

Part of the recession in the State of Ohio occurred this last winter when